

# ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

held on

Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Elsworth School at 7:30pm

### PRESENT

Chairman	Paul Solon
Councillors	Peter Deer (PD) Alan Farrow (AF) Annie Howell (AH) Margaret Stevenson (MSt)
In attendance	Mrs E Sim (ES) Parish Clerk
County Councillor	Mandy Smith
District Councillor	CLlr N Wright
Parish Tree Warden	Paul Harding

### Open Forum

There were no attendees

#### 1. Apologies for absence

D.Cllr Mark Howell

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none

#### 3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The minutes were approved as a true record <sup>(Prop AH, 2nd PD)</sup> and signed by the Chairman

#### 4. Report from County Councillor

Cllr Smith reported that:

- The County Council had not yet set the council tax rate for the coming financial year. This was expected to be announced mid-February
- A14 upgrade. The Highways agency would come to Parish Council meetings to liaise over any issues
- The Innovation Fund from the A 14 was a source of funding available in parishes affected by the A14 upgrade
- Gritting routes had been reinstated at the end of 2016. MS agreed to lobby to upgrade the status of Brockley Road
- The Good Neighbourhood watch scheme was an excellent line of communication in addition to the Neighbourhood watch schemes. MS undertook to send the Clerk information.
- Traffic issues in Elsworth. MS undertook to liaise with the Highways Department with regard to possible traffic reduction and calming measures following rejection of schemes put forward by the Parish Council over several years. Parishioner had again raised serious concern about the traffic volume and its dangers and the Council requested that Highways produce concrete proposals for the village to reduce this. Councillors **agreed** that funding for schemes could be provided direct from parish funds if required and noted that funds set aside as contributions to schemes proposed for LHI were unspent. <sup>(Prop PD, 2nd AH)</sup> The Clerk had requested advice from the SCDC Environmental Health Department on monitoring the level of pollution from fumes.

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## 5. Report from District Councillor

### Cllr Wright reported that

- SCDC had proposed Council tax amounting to an additional £5 on band D properties. This put the DC in the lowest quartile in the country for increases in the coming financial year
- West Cambourne development had received approval for 2,400 new properties, double what had been proposed. Developers were sitting on developments and targets of 1k new properties per year were currently well under at 400. Despite the large developments in Cambourne and Hardwick SC still had a lack in its five-year land supply. The Local Plan is proving to be a slow process.
- Cambridge to Oxford rail link. Cllrs were lobbying for a route through Bourn and St Neots despite problems at Sandy. The more likely route would be a straight line through Wimpole
- A428. Twelve possible routes were being considered. This upgrade is due to commence after the A14 upgrade is completed. The Caxton Gibbet roundabout would more than likely disappear in the new road scheme. Cllr Wright confirmed that the City Deal funding covered the whole of South Cambridgeshire.

## 6. Local Green Spaces.

The Chairman reported that he attended a hearing to give evidence to the inspector of the use of the allotments over many years. The allotments were proposed for designation as a Local Green Space as they have been special to Elsworth for many years and are of historical and recreational significance to the village. The Inspectors' view will not be known until the full report is published in some six months' time.

Housing policy issues were scheduled to be heard in April 2017. LGS status for the allotments would impact on proposed development behind the school.

## 7. Coalition of Parish Councils.

The Chairman reminded councillors that this coalition was originally formed to object to the development of Bourn Airfield and to have a policy regarding the A 428. He then reported on the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The coalition is now dealing with the issue of the proposed Cambourne to Cambridge busway. Nineteen parishes out of twenty-five that have boundaries with the A 428, A 14 and A11 are full members of the coalition. The current aims are to encourage all twenty-five parishes to become full members to present a united front and to draft a letter to the Secretary of State highlighting the disarray and lack of a strategic plan in the Greater Cambridge City Deal process. The Local Liaison Forum recognises that there is an urgent need for the group to put forward a plan of its own, which would be considerably cheaper than current proposals, for an on-road busway following the line of the existing A428, with essential road widening from Madingley to Cambridge City Centre.

## 8. Elsworth's postie's retirement and farewell.

The Clerk reported that Sheena Farrar had officially retired from Royal Mail on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016. ES updated all on the progress of the village collection for her and proposals for a gift and farewell.

## 9. Fardell's Lane Reserve. No report had been received.

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### 10. Community transport needs.

Cllr Farrow reported that he was drawing a line under his previous proposals and would represent a different scheme in the future, once the decision on the route 9 bus had been made. Councillors advised that any scheme requiring parish council funding would need to be evidence based, demonstrating benefit to a large percentage of village residents. The Cambourne Community Car Scheme which had been extended to include Elsworth residents was benefitting parishioners.

### 11. Clerk's update.

ES reported that the Defibrillator had been ordered through EEAS and that David Taylor, the landlord of the Poacher, had agreed to site it at the pub and offered to host the training session. DC planners and conservation officers had been contacted

### 12. Planning Applications

#### 12.1. S/3561/16/FL B Ratcliffe 55 Boxworth Road Elsworth CB23 4JQ

Erection of new entrance piers and widened crossover to public highway

*PC recommendation: We have no objection to this proposal **Provided that** the works are, in full, constructed in accordance with the drawings submitted i.e. (1) to install the 225mm concrete pipe under drive (2) to ensure that the paving is flush with the verge (currently 400mm approx. above) (3) to reinstate the slotted kerb east of the new driveway (4) to reinstate the verge along the entire frontage generally, to repair damage from builders' vehicles.*

#### 12.2. S/3587/16/VC Stella Green 6 The Drift Elsworth CB23 4JN

Removal of condition 12 (occupation of the dwelling) to planning permission S/1246/98/F

*PC recommendation: **OBJECT.** Comments: The Application is based on false premises. Contrary to Para 3 of the planning statement, the Leader of the Papworth Team Ministry is the Rector of Elsworth and the building is required as accommodation for the leader on an ongoing basis. Any vacancy is solely due to periods pending the appointment of a new Leader. The Parish Council requests that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee.*

#### 12.3. S/3548/16/FL Mr & Mrs Philip & Clara Sleightholme & Davies 21 Brook Street, Elsworth, Cambridge, CB23 4HX

Two storey rear extension and internal alternations. Single storey conservatory and detached garage following demolition of existing rear extensions.

*PC Recommendation: **OBJECT.** Comments: It is not clear from the submitted Design, Access and Heritage statement what exactly is proposed, but the Council considers that (1) the new garage building is disproportionately large and out of scale with the site and neighbouring properties (2) the north -eastern extension is poorly designed and doesn't complement the existing building (3) putting panels on the roof of the garage is not appropriate as the main buiding's roof is of slate.*

#### 12.4. S/0012/17/TC Mr D Brown 9, Church Lane, Elsworth, CB23 4HU

Maple (T1) Fell Maple tree which has two leading stems and is overhanging greenhouse and blocking out light. Maple (T2) Reduce by 3M due to overhanging summer house and blocking light.

*PC recommendation: Support*

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**13. Greater Cambridge City Deal.** To delegate the authority to represent Elsworth at the Local Liaison Forum of the City Deal meeting (date of next meeting TBC) to the Chairman of the Parish Council (or his representative). **Agreed** Unanimously <sup>(Prop PD, 2nd MS)</sup>

**14. Traffic matters in the village.** To receive a verbal update on the current position on traffic calming proposals and consider possible ways forward which could be funded by the parish Council. Dealt with under item 4.

**15. Monthly payments**

Harry Stebbing Bench for churchyard	972.00
Pendrill Publications Dec 2016 edition Elsworth Times	75.00
Charles Arnold Baker Local Government administration 10th edition	79.05
NALC Local Government explained - updated version	19.99
BT Phone and internet bill Jan - Mar	181.79
Cambridgeshire ACRE Annual Membership	54.00
Viking Stationery	61.19

Receipts

Donations Queen's mugs	255.00
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**16. Parish Council Budget for 2017-2018 and precept requirement**

Councillors scrutinised the annual expenditure and **agreed** unanimously to request a precept of £22,000 for 2017-18 <sup>(Prop AF, 2nd PS)</sup> This was a zero increase on the precept for 2016-17.

**Dates of meetings 2017**

March 15<sup>th</sup>

April 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting

May 17<sup>th</sup> AGM

July 19<sup>th</sup>

September 20<sup>th</sup>

November 15<sup>th</sup>

**There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 23.05**

**Signed**

**(Chairman) Date**